

looking fellow, of dark complexion, and well-proportioned frame; but there was nothing especially remarkable about his features, except the fact that a fondness for the gross, material things of life, was perhaps somewhat more distinctly written upon the expression of the forehead, the spiritual—and this in spite of his love for Abigail and music.

Clara Romaine opened the door for him. "Why, I declare," he exclaimed at sight of her; "ain't you splendid? Jove, little sis, that's the prettiest dress I ever saw."

He forgot that he had told Abigail it was the ugliest one he ever saw, and begged her never to wear it again.

"Miss Abby gave it to me," said Clara, smiling.

"Did she? Just like her goodness, bless her!"

He hung his hat on the hall rack, and looking in the glass, ran his fingers admiringly through his hair.

"She says you didn't like it when she wore it," added Clara, "putting out her red lips in a pouting mouth."

"Does she? Why, I remember it now! Sure enough—I thought the color was faded. But it isn't; it suits you right down to the ground, you little witch!"

"Nice witch, or nasty witch?" asked the girl, with a laugh.

"You know well enough which you are," he returned, tapping her cheek with an approving hand; "but I don't mind your being so beautiful."

Abigail went into her bedroom, and from a bureau-drawer took one of what she called her "useful" handkerchiefs, larger in size than she generally favored, and marked with her full name—*Abigail Morton*—written in her own hand.

"There! Now go along, quick!" Clara was off, bounding down the stairs two at a time.

CHAPTER VI.

Arrived at the modest hotel called the American House, the young man asked the waitress who opened the door of the Ladies' Entrance if Mr. Willard Chapman was in. Receiving an affirmative reply, Clara walked into the ladies' parlor.

"Please tell him somebody's here who's got an important letter for him," said Clara, with an air of mystery.

The waitress was a brown, redheaded person of an exceedingly practical turn of mind, and evidently of distinct Irish ancestry. Ignoring the smiles and winks of the full beauty in the parlor, she walked to the balcony and resolutely clutching the newel shouted in a stentorian voice:

"Say, Mister Chapman!"

"Clara left the parlor, and saw Chapman put his head over the top of the winding stairs."

"This is a crayer with a letter for ye," she said.

"Bring it up," said Chapman.

"Let her bring it up herself, then," retorted the waitress, angrily flourishing off in the direction of the door.

"Is it myself ye take for yer nagger, or what?"

The agile Clara ran up the short staircase like a monkey climbing a tree.

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## HOW HE "LISHED."

Experience of Tommy Vic as a Cavalryman.

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT Tommy Vic was a Cavalryman. He was a little, short-legged, dumpy Irishman by the name of Thomas McIntyre, or, as we always called him "Tommy Vic."

Tommy never claimed to be a fighting man. In fact it was an open secret with him, that to be a Cavalryman was his preference to being a dead soldier.

He certainly was not an ideal Cavalryman in his general make-up, but he was grafted into the army at a time when recruiting was slow, and minor points in regard to the physical qualifications necessary to make a soldier had been quietly dropped.

Tommy had considerable Irish shrewdness, but was decidedly lacking in self-reliance, except on one point, and that was the question of "lishing," as he termed it, when it had always been a prompt and emphatic "no" to all invitations. He had long been considered an available man to count on the quiet, and all sorts of influences had been brought to bear to induce him to enlist, but without avail.

His regiment was recruited in the Fall of 1863, and was sent to the front in the summer of 1864. A number of his boys were home on leave to live a town where Tommy lived. One night he was waiting for the train, which was due about midnight, to return to camp. Tommy was about town as usual, so he, together with a number of the townsmen, determined to resort to the last expedient to get him into the army, and that was to get him full, if possible, take him to camp, get him inside of a uniform, and then trust to his well-known credulity for the rest.

He was notoriously fond of his glass, and would respond with a hearty "If you please" to any number of invitations to take a drink, and the smile broadened over his rubicund countenance that night as he looked on the faces of his friends.

It looked for some time as though he had mistaken the caliber of our man, as he continued to step up and blantly take his swill from the glass, until we switched him off onto beer, and while one attracted his attention another poured out a part of his beer and fill the glass up with whiskey. He soon began to get mellow, and before the train came on the street shouting at the top of his voice that he could whip the whole "Confederacy" single handed. He was put through the preliminaries before a magistrate and sent to the front in the morning.

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on his back. After getting his wind, he picked himself up and limped to camp, where we found him none the worse for his adventure, but staring at the soldiers that he would "never straddle that bloody bast" again.

He didn't "lish" to have his neck broken by such a foolhardy.

We were armed with the long Spencer rifle, and revolver, and other such arms also carried a half a dozen. When we drew our arms Tommy stood for some time contemplating his lay-out, and at last exclaimed:

"Long gun and a short gun, a big knife and a little ax, he jilows! How the devil can I carry them, when I must hold to me bridle with one hand and me saddle with the other?"

We had been in Tennessee but a short time, and a necessary factor in the personnel of a strong force under Brinkridge. Every available man was required to defend our little camp, so Tommy was compelled to face the music on the skirmish-line. When the enemy was within range of his rifle, he was in Tommy was missing. On looking about his round posterior was discovered protruding from behind the cover of a friendly stump, that sheltered his head and shoulders. One of the men stole quietly up and dealt him a full blow with the flat of his saber.

"Howdy Mither! I'm shot!" he yelled, and clapping both hands over his bruised part, he swore for camp as fast as his short legs would carry him, and never stopped till he was safe in his bunk and under the blankets.

It was the first and only time that he was under fire; but, after all, there were many more soldiers than Tommy. He wasn't killed, but he performed the many other arduous duties incident to army life with a fidelity that atoned for his shortcomings otherwise. He was a necessary factor in the personnel of the army, for he would work. He would do more fatigue duty than any five men in the company, and never was so happy as when he was sent to the front to do his duty.

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